

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:

communicating with a first network via a first wireless communication link in a first communication mode;

receiving data from the first network intended for a second network;

storing said data;

switching to a second communication mode; and

transmitting the data to the second network via a second communication link in the second communication mode.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said transmitting the data to the second network comprises transmitting the data via a wireless communication link.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving data from the second network intended for the first network;

storing said data;

switching to the first communications mode; and

transmitting the data from the second network to the first network via the first wireless communications link in the first communications mode.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said switching comprises switching communications from a first network interface adapted for communication with the first network to a second network interface adapted for communication with the second network.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said communicating with the first network comprises communicating with a first IP-based network.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said communicating with the first network comprises communicating with an ad hoc network in compliance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said communicating with the second network comprises communicating with a second IP-based network.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said communicating with the second network comprises communicating with an infrastructure network in compliance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein said communicating with the second network comprises communicating with an ad hoc network in compliance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein said communicating with the second network comprises communicating with a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network.

11. Apparatus comprising:

an antenna operative to communicate on a wireless communications link;

a first network interface operative to format data for communication with a first network;

a second network interface operative to format data for communication with a second network;

a multiplexing device operative to switch a connection to the antenna between the first network interface and the second network interface; and

a controller operative to control the multiplexing device to switch the connection in response to detecting data intended to be communicated between the first network and the second network.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a storage device operative to store the data intended to be communicated between the first network and the second network.

13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the first and second networks comprise IP-based networks including wireless communications links.

14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the first network interface comprises an 802.11 network interface adapted for use in an ad hoc network.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the second network interface comprises an 802.11 network interface adapted for use in an infrastructure network.

16. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the second network interface comprises an 802.11 network interface adapted for use in a second ad hoc network.

17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the second network interface comprises a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network interface.

18. An article comprising a machine-readable medium which stores machine-executable instructions, the instructions causing a machine to:

communicate with a first network via a first wireless communication link in a first communication mode;

receive data from the first network intended for a second network;

store said data;

switch to a second communication mode; and

transmit the data to the second network via a second communication link in the second communication mode.

19. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions causing the machine to transmit the data to the second network comprise instructions causing the machine to transmit the data via a wireless communication link.

20. The article of claim 18, further comprising instructions causing the machine to:

receive data from the second network intended for the first network;

store said data;

switch to the first communications mode; and

transmit the data from the second network to the first network via the first wireless communications link in the first communications mode.

21. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions causing the machine to switch modes comprise instructions causing the machine to switch communications from a first network interface adapted for communication with the first network to a second network interface adapted for communication with the second network.

22. The article of claim 18, wherein the first network comprises a first IP-based network.

23. The article of claim 22, wherein first network comprises an ad hoc network in compliance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

24. The article of claim 18, wherein the second network comprises a second IP-based network.

25. The article of claim 24, wherein the second network comprises an infrastructure network in compliance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

26. The article of claim 24, wherein the second network comprises an ad hoc network in compliance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

27. The article of claim 24, wherein the second network comprises a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network.